# State of Alaska FY2008 Governor's Operating Budget

Department of Labor and Workforce Development Labor Standards and Safety Results Delivery Unit Budget Summary

#### **Labor Standards and Safety Results Delivery Unit**

#### **Contribution to Department's Mission**

Labor Standards and Safety contributes to the Department's mission by providing safe and legal working conditions.

#### **Core Services**

Occupational safety and health law enforcement, training and consultation.

Wage law enforcement and training.

Prevailing wage and Alaska resident hire law enforcement and training.

Electrical and mechanical code compliance inspections and training.

Certification of electricians, power linemen, plumbers, blasters, painters and asbestos workers.

| End Results  | Strategies to Achieve Results  |
|--|--|
| A: Eliminate workplace fatalities caused by circumstances that are under Alaska Occupational Safety and Health (AKOSH) jurisdiction.  Target #1: Zero accidental workplace fatalities.  Measure #1: The number of accidental workplace fatalities compared to the previous year. | A1: Reduce the number of worker fatalities under AKOSH jurisdiction by focusing compliance, consultation and outreach efforts on the causes of fatalities.  Target #1: 3% reduction in the number of workplace fatalities per 100,000 employees compared to the previous 5 year average.  Measure #1: The change in the rate of workplace fatalities per 100,000 employees compared to the average for the |
|  | previous 5 years.  |
| End Results  | Strategies to Achieve Results  |
| B: Reduce the number of worker lost time injuries and illnesses in the workplace that are within AKOSH jurisdiction.   | B1: Reduce the number of lost time worker injuries/ illnesses in the construction and transportation industries by focusing on causes.   |
| <u>Target #1:</u> 2% per year reduction in the rate of workplace lost time injuries and illnesses per 100 employees. <u>Measure #1:</u> The rate of workplace lost time injuries and illnesses per 100 employees compared to the previous year.                                  | Target #1: 3% reduction per year in lost time injuries and illnesses per 100 employees in the construction and transportation industries.  Measure #1: The change in the rate of lost time injuries and illnesses per 100 employees in the construction and transportation industries compared to the previous year.   |
|  | B2: Improve voluntary compliance with Occupational Safety and Health requirements.   |
|  | Target #1: Increase the number of Voluntary Protection Program (VPP) and Safety & Health Achievement Recognition Program (SHARP) sites in Alaska by 10% per year.  Measure #1: The percentage change in the number of VPP and SHARP sites in comparison to the previous year.  |

| End Results  | Strategies to Achieve Results  |
|--|--|
| C: Reduce hazards to life and property posed by unsafe boilers/pressure vessels, plumbing and electrical work and elevators within Mechanical Inspection's jurisdiction.   | C1: Ensure boilers and pressure vessels are maintained and operating to code through timely inspections.   |
| Target #1: Zero loss of life or property caused by unsafe boilers/pressure vessels, plumbing and electrical work and elevators.  Measure #1: Total number of boiler/pressure vessel, plumbing, electrical or elevator incidents resulting in loss of life or property. | Target #1: Reduce boiler inspection backlog by 33% per year.  Measure #1: Annual percentage change in the number of overdue inspections in comparison to the previous year.  Target #2: 80% of boiler and pressure vessel code violations corrected upon inspection.  Measure #2: Percentage of boiler and pressure vessel violations corrected compared to the total number detected.  C2: Eliminate electrical and plumbing code violations. |
|  | Target #1: 80% correction of electrical code violations identified through inspection.  Measure #1: Percentage of electrical code violations corrected compared to the total number detected.  |
|  | Target #2: 80% correction of plumbing code violations identified upon inspection.  Measure #2: Percentage of plumbing code violations corrected compared to the total number detected.   |
|  | C3: Eliminate elevator code violations.  Target #1: 80% correction of code violations identified through inspection.  Measure #1: Percentage of code violations corrected compared to the total number detected.   |
| End Results  | Strategies to Achieve Results  |
| D: Full compliance with Alaska's Employment Preference Act (AS 36.10).   | D1: Reduce the number of Alaska resident hire violations.  |
| Target #1: 20% reduction in ratio of Alaska Employment Preference Act violations to on-site inspections compared to the previous year.  Measure #1: Percentage change in the ratio of violations to on-site inspections compared to the previous year.                 | <u>Target #1:</u> Check 60% of certified payrolls for compliance with Alaska resident hire requirements. <u>Measure #1:</u> Percentage of certified payrolls checked for compliance.   |
| End Results  | Strategies to Achieve Results  |
| E: Provide legal employment conditions within the Wage and Hour Administration's jurisdiction.   | E1: Reduce wage claims by improving employer education efforts.  |
| Target #1: Maintain average wage claim resolution time to 6 months or less.  Measure #1: Average claim resolution time.  | Target #1: Increase the number of employer briefings by 5% from the previous year.  Measure #1: The percentage change in the total number of employer briefings in comparison to the previous year.  |

#### **Major Activities to Advance Strategies**

- Mechanical Inspection and Wage and Hour enforce contractor licensing and electrical and mechanical administrator licensing requirements.
  - Mechanical Inspection enforces certification
- requirements for plumbers, electricians, explosives handlers, hazardous painters and asbestos workers.
   Mechanical Inspection inspects mechanical and
- electrical systems, boilers and elevators to enforce code compliance.
  - Wage and Hour investigates wage claims and
- prevailing wage complaints and pursues collection of unpaid wages, benefits, penalties and interest.
   Wage and Hour conducts on-site inspections and
- briefings to achieve child labor law compliance.

- Wage and Hour audits certified payrolls to check
- compliance with Alaska Resident Hire laws.
   Occupational Safety and Health provides recognition
- awards for exemplary workplace safety and health programs.
  - Occupational Safety and Health Consultation performs
- on-site reviews and improvements of employer safety and health programs.
  - Occupational Safety and Health Enforcement
- conducts inspections, provides abatement assistance and assesses penalties when required.

| FY2008 Resources Allocated to Achieve Results                             |           |    |  |
|---|-----------|----|--|
| Personnel: FY2008 Results Delivery Unit Budget: \$10,138,500 Full time 88 |           |    |  |
|   | Part time | 1  |  |
|   | Total     | 89 |  |

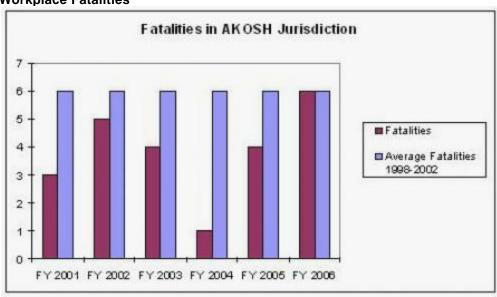
#### Performance Measure Detail

A: Result - Eliminate workplace fatalities caused by circumstances that are under Alaska Occupational Safety and Health (AKOSH) jurisdiction.

Target #1:Zero accidental workplace fatalities.

Measure #1: The number of accidental workplace fatalities compared to the previous year.

#### **Accidental Workplace Fatalities**



**Analysis of results and challenges:** The number of workplace fatalities will be calculated using fatality reports submitted to the Alaska Occupational Safety and Health Administration (AKOSH). AKOSH will reduce workplace fatalities through consultation and enforcement inspections by targeting industries with high fatality rates and eliminating the most prevalent causes of fatalities.

Due to the relatively small number of workplace fatalities and the annual fluctuations, it is useful to compare the current number of fatalities to the average number of fatalities over a 5 year period. The benchmark is from 1998-2002 when there was an average of six fatalities per year. The number of fatalities in 2006 increased to the previous 5 year average. The number of jobs has also increased significantly over the last year in high hazard categories such as construction, transportation and warehousing. Also, according to the medical examiners report, 3 of the 6 fatalities in FY06 were workers that were under the influence of marijuana.

## A1: Strategy - Reduce the number of worker fatalities under AKOSH jurisdiction by focusing compliance, consultation and outreach efforts on the causes of fatalities.

**Target #1:**3% reduction in the number of workplace fatalities per 100,000 employees compared to the previous 5 vear average.

**Measure #1:** The change in the rate of workplace fatalities per 100,000 employees compared to the average for the previous 5 years.

**Workplace Fatalities** 

| Fiscal  | Yearly Rate | Previous 5-year | % Change |
|---------|-------------|-----------------|----------|
| Year    |             | Average         |          |
| FY 2004 | 0           | 2.33            | 0        |
| FY 2005 | 1.32        | 1.87            | -42%     |
| FY 2006 | 1.93        | 1.43            | 35%      |

Analysis of results and challenges: This statistic will be calculated using workplace fatality reports submitted to the Alaska Occupational Safety and Health (AKOSH) section and employment statistics maintained by Research and Analysis. AKOSH will reduce workplace fatalities through a combination of consultation and enforcement activities targeted on eliminating the most prevalent causes of fatalities in industries with high fatality rates. Employment in high hazard industries such as construction, transportation and warehousing has increased significantly in the past three years. According to the medical examiners report, 3 of the 6 fatalities in FY06 were workers that were under the influence of marijuana.

### B: Result - Reduce the number of worker lost time injuries and illnesses in the workplace that are within AKOSH jurisdiction.

Target #1:2% per year reduction in the rate of workplace lost time injuries and illnesses per 100 employees.

Measure #1: The rate of workplace lost time injuries and illnesses per 100 employees compared to the previous year.

**Worker Lost Time Injuries and Illnesses** 

| Fiscal<br>Year | Rate | % Change |
|----------------|------|----------|
| FY 2001        | 3.59 |          |
| FY 2002        | 3.24 | -10%     |
| FY 2003        | 2.73 | -16%     |
| FY 2004        | 1.94 | -29%     |
| FY 2005        | 2.29 | 18%      |
| FY 2006        | 2.24 | -2%      |

**Analysis of results and challenges:** Since FY01, the AKOSH program has reduced the lost workday illness and injury rate by 38% by targeting consultation and enforcement efforts on the causes of illnesses and injuries in industries with high incident rates. In FY03, the program initiated a five year strategic plan, which focused

inspection, training and consultation efforts on high growth, high hazard industries (construction and transportation/warehousing) as evidenced by Worker's Compensation Insurance claim data. Significant reductions were achieved in the first two years of implementing the strategic plan, but due to increases in construction employment and other high hazard resource development jobs, the high percentage reductions were not sustainable.

In FY06, the section added a Safety Consultant position to focus more effort toward assisting employers in these high hazard categories. In FY07, a Compliance Assistance Specialist was added to assist employers to achieve safer worksites while under enforcement processes. As the enforcement program exclusively targets high hazard employers, the Compliance Assistance Specialist has focused accident reduction efforts with the greatest potential for achievement.

To help put the rate into perspective, there were 6,941 recorded injuries with 309,382 employees in FY06 and 7,263 recorded injuries with 296,508 employees in FY02. Even though nearly 14,000 employees have been added to the Alaska economy over this time period, there were 322 fewer recorded injuries in FY06.

### B1: Strategy - Reduce the number of lost time worker injuries/ illnesses in the construction and transportation industries by focusing on causes.

**Target #1:**3% reduction per year in lost time injuries and illnesses per 100 employees in the construction and transportation industries.

**Measure #1:** The change in the rate of lost time injuries and illnesses per 100 employees in the construction and transportation industries compared to the previous year.

Lost Workday Illness/Injury Rates for Transportation and Construction

| Fiscal<br>Year | Trans. Rate | % Change | Const. Rate | % Change |
|----------------|-------------|----------|-------------|----------|
| FY 2001        | 3.53        |          | 7.59        | 0        |
| FY 2002        | 3.50        | 9%       | 7.39        | -3%      |
| FY 2003        | 3.10        | -11%     | 6.16        | -17%     |
| FY 2004        | 2.84        | -8%      | 4.21        | -32%     |
| FY 2005        | 3.33        | +17%     | 4.38        | +4%      |
| FY 2006        | 4.22        | +27%     | 3.34        | -24%     |

Analysis of results and challenges: Alaska Occupational Safety and Health (AKOSH) will reduce illnesses and injuries by targeting consultation and enforcement efforts on the causes of lost work day illnesses and injuries in construction and transportation. AKOSH obtains illness and injury data from Workers' Compensation insurance claim data and employment statistics maintained by Research and Analysis. Due to increased resource development projects, the construction, transportation and warehousing industries have increased significantly over the past three years. The increased activity creates a challenge for the AKOSH staff to keep up with the number of inspections required to impact the industry accident rate.

#### B2: Strategy - Improve voluntary compliance with Occupational Safety and Health requirements.

Target #1:Increase the number of Voluntary Protection Program (VPP) and Safety & Health Achievement Recognition Program (SHARP) sites in Alaska by 10% per year.

Measure #1: The percentage change in the number of VPP and SHARP sites in comparison to the previous

#### **VPP and SHARP Sites**

| Fiscal<br>Year | VPP Sites | SHARP Sites | Total Sites | %Change |
|----------------|-----------|-------------|-------------|---------|
| FY 2001        | 3         | 3           | 6           |         |
| FY 2002        | 3         | 5           | 8           | 33%     |
| FY 2003        | 4         | 11          | 15          | 88%     |
| FY 2004        | 6         | 12          | 18          | 20%     |
| FY 2005        | 6         | 12          | 18          | 0       |
| FY 2006        | 11        | 11          | 22          | 22%     |

Analysis of results and challenges: The SHARP Program targets smaller employers with less than 250 employees at a site and less than 500 employees total. These smaller employers have a difficult time making the commitment necessary to participate in SHARP. In addition, one benefit of participation, deferred enforcement inspections for 18 months, is not significant when Alaska provides a 12-month deferral for any company that receives a comprehensive consultation visit and corrects all hazards. The VPP Program is designed for larger employers with 500+ employees. Qualification for VPP is time consuming and Alaska has relatively few employers large enough to qualify.

SHARP and VPP participation will be improved by promoting the benefits of the program to businesses. Consultants will work in partnership with businesses to assist with the development, implementation and maintenance of occupational safety and health programs and performance necessary to meet VPP and SHARP participation standards. The benefits to employers to participate in these programs are reductions in injuries and illnesses, a reduction in operational costs and an increase in productivity.

#### C: Result - Reduce hazards to life and property posed by unsafe boilers/pressure vessels, plumbing and electrical work and elevators within Mechanical Inspection's jurisdiction.

Target #1:Zero loss of life or property caused by unsafe boilers/pressure vessels, plumbing and electrical work and elevators.

Measure #1: Total number of boiler/pressure vessel, plumbing, electrical or elevator incidents resulting in loss of life or property.

Incidents of Loss of Life or Property

| Fiscal<br>Year | Boiler/Pressure Vessel | Plumbing | Electrical | Elevators |
|----------------|------------------------|----------|------------|-----------|
| FY 2004        | 0                      | 0        | 0          | 0         |
| FY 2005        | 0                      | 0        | 0          | 0         |
| FY 2006        | 0                      | 0        | 0          | 0         |

Analysis of results and challenges: On 1/1/04 Mechanical Inspection began tracking the specific number of incidents causing loss of life or property as a result of unsafe boilers or pressure vessels, plumbing and electrical work and elevators. Mechanical Inspection will strive to inspect boilers, pressure vessels and elevators by the inspection due date and eliminate code violations. Mechanical Inspection will eliminate hazards to life and property by inspecting electrical and plumbing work and pursue correction of any code or licensing violations identified. It is extremely important to maintain a zero incident rate as a single incident would result in catastrophic results for Alaskans.

### C1: Strategy - Ensure boilers and pressure vessels are maintained and operating to code through timely inspections.

Target #1:Reduce boiler inspection backlog by 33% per year.

**Measure #1:** Annual percentage change in the number of overdue inspections in comparison to the previous year.

# of Overdue Boiler Inspections and Percentage Change

| Fiscal  | # of Boilers | % Change |
|---------|--------------|----------|
| Year    |              |          |
| FY 2001 | 6,200        |          |
| FY 2002 | 7,200        | +16%     |
| FY 2003 | 5,268        | -27%     |
| FY 2004 | 2,996        | -43%     |
| FY 2005 | 2,737        | -9%      |
| FY 2006 | 3,033        | +11%     |

**Analysis of results and challenges:** Mechanical Inspection tracks boiler/pressure vessel inspection due dates and inspection certifications. Boiler Inspectors work to complete inspections for all boilers/pressure vessels due for inspection, while eliminating overdue boilers/pressure vessels from the backlog. In FY 2006, an inspector position was vacant for most of the year causing the rate of reduction to decline. Furthermore, new units were installed in FY06, which has further stressed inspection resources.

Target #2:80% of boiler and pressure vessel code violations corrected upon inspection.

**Measure #2:** Percentage of boiler and pressure vessel violations corrected compared to the total number detected.

#### **Boiler Violations**

| Fiscal<br>Year | # Violations | # Corrected | % Corrected |
|----------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|
| FY 2001        | 1,434        | 1,152       | 80%         |
| FY 2002        | 905          | 636         | 70%         |
| FY 2003        | 1,242        | 809         | 65%         |
| FY 2004        | 1,189        | 789         | 66%         |
| FY 2005        | 763          | 573         | 75%         |
| FY 2006        | 739          | 618         | 84%         |

Analysis of results and challenges: Mechanical Inspection currently tracks the number of code violations identified during inspections and verifies corrections. Inspectors will inspect boilers and pressure vessels for code compliance and focus on pursuing enforcement actions to obtain verifications that code violations have been corrected. The number of code violations corrected is affected by the timing of the correction. Corrections may not be realized until the following year. Inspectors will focus efforts on receiving timely verification of code violation abatements to increase this percentage.

#### C2: Strategy - Eliminate electrical and plumbing code violations.

**Target #1:**80% correction of electrical code violations identified through inspection.

Measure #1: Percentage of electrical code violations corrected compared to the total number detected.

#### **Electrical Violations**

| Fiscal  | # Violations | # Corrected | % Corrected |
|---------|--------------|-------------|-------------|
| Year    |              |             |             |
| FY 2001 | 768          | 534         | 69%         |
| FY 2002 | 287          | 221         | 77%         |
| FY 2003 | 666          | 259         | 39%         |
| FY 2004 | 188          | 232         | 123%        |
| FY 2005 | 775          | 636         | 82%         |
| FY 2006 | 793          | 644         | 81%         |

Analysis of results and challenges: Mechanical Inspection tracks code violations identified and the number of verified code corrections. Inspectors physically review electrical work during random on-site inspections to verify that code requirements are met. The percentage change in code violations corrected is affected by the number of violations that are corrected in the following year. Inspectors will focus efforts on receiving timely verification of code violation abatements to increase this percentage.

Target #2:80% correction of plumbing code violations identified upon inspection.

Measure #2: Percentage of plumbing code violations corrected compared to the total number detected.

#### **Plumbing Violations**

| Fluilibilig | violations   |             |             |
|-------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|
| Fiscal      | # Violations | # Corrected | % Corrected |
| Year        |              |             |             |
| FY 2001     | 243          | 136         | 56%         |
| FY 2002     | 176          | 70          | 40%         |
| FY 2003     | 565          | 262         | 46%         |
| FY 2004     | 679          | 442         | 65%         |
| FY 2005     | 856          | 675         | 79%         |
| FY 2006     | 819          | 676         | 83%         |

Analysis of results and challenges: Mechanical Inspection tracks code violations identified and the number of verified code corrections. Inspectors physically review plumbing work during random on-site inspections to verify that code requirements are met. The percentage change in code violations corrected is affected by the number of violations that are corrected in the following year. Inspectors will focus efforts on receiving timely verification of code violation abatements to increase the percentage.

#### C3: Strategy - Eliminate elevator code violations.

**Target #1:**80% correction of code violations identified through inspection.

Measure #1: Percentage of code violations corrected compared to the total number detected.

#### **Elevator Violations**

| Fiscal<br>Year | # Violations | # Corrected | % Corrected |
|----------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|
| FY 2001        | 708          | 377         | 53%         |
| FY 2002        | 819          | 315         | 38%         |
| FY 2003        | 1,128        | 589         | 52%         |
| FY 2004        | 820          | 601         | 73%         |
| FY 2005        | 1,131        | 651         | 58%         |
| FY 2006        | 1,444        | 801         | 56%         |

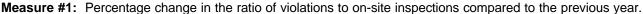
Analysis of results and challenges: Mechanical Inspection maintains data on elevator inspections, code

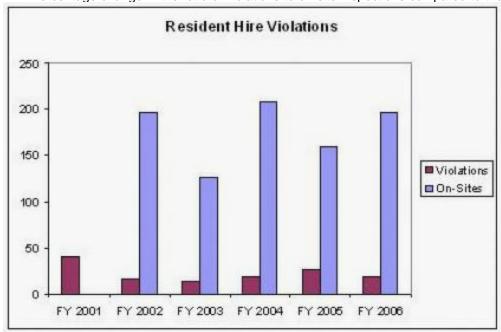
violations and abatements. Elevator Inspectors strive to perform timely inspections of elevators, escalators, wheelchair lifts and other lifting devices for code compliance. The number of code violations corrected is affected by the number of violations that are corrected in the following year. Inspectors will focus efforts on receiving timely verification of code violation abatements to increase this percentage.

In FY06, 16 new elevator units were installed in Alaska. Initial inspection is time consuming and further stresses inspection resources.

#### D: Result - Full compliance with Alaska's Employment Preference Act (AS 36.10).

**Target #1:**20% reduction in ratio of Alaska Employment Preference Act violations to on-site inspections compared to the previous year.





| Fiscal<br>Year | # Violations | # On-Sites | Violations/On-Site<br>Ratio | 0    |
|----------------|--------------|------------|-----------------------------|------|
| FY 2001        | 40           |            |                             |      |
| FY 2002        | 16           | 196        | 8%                          |      |
| FY 2003        | 13           | 126        | 10%                         | +26% |
| FY 2004        | 19           | 209        | 9%                          | -11% |
| FY 2005        | 26           | 160        | 16%                         | +79% |
| FY 2006        | 19           | 196        | 10%                         | -38% |

Analysis of results and challenges: The number of on-site inspections and number of violations identified are tracked each year. In FY03, the number of on site inspections was reduced following the elimination of a Wage and Hour Technician position. In FY05, two Wage and Hour Technicians were added back into the budget to review certified payrolls and this allowed existing investigative staff to increase the number of on-site inspections. In FY06 another Wage and Hour Technician was added to assist with statewide resident hire enforcement through certified payroll reviews. Increased certified payroll reviews resulted in an increase in the number of violations identified and required investigators to spend more time evaluating and resolving the violations, which resulted in fewer on-site inspections.

In FY06, the number of violations was reduced as a result of certified payroll reviews and educational campaigns to promote the benefits of Alaska hire. However, although the ratio of violations to on site inspections was reduced significantly in FY06, only 4% of the 4,602 public construction projects were inspected. In FY07, an investigator position was added to increase the number of on-site inspections to identify Alaska hire violations

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and verify accurate reporting.

Given existing on-site inspection capabilities and with increased public construction projects on the horizon, additional investigative staff are necessary to adequately ensure Alaska hire compliance through on-site inspections.

#### D1: Strategy - Reduce the number of Alaska resident hire violations.

**Target #1:**Check 60% of certified payrolls for compliance with Alaska resident hire requirements. **Measure #1:** Percentage of certified payrolls checked for compliance.

#### **Certified Payrolls**

| Fiscal  | # Received | # Audited | % Checked |
|---------|------------|-----------|-----------|
| Year    |            |           |           |
| FY 2001 | N/A        | 6,428     | Not Avail |
| FY 2002 | N/A        | 6,653     | Not Avail |
| FY 2003 | N/A        | 4,853     | Not Avail |
| FY 2004 | 16,770     | 762       | 5%        |
| FY 2005 | 43,942     | 9,215     | 21%       |
| FY 2006 | 42,027     | 20,929    | 55%       |

Analysis of results and challenges: Wage and Hour had not monitored the number of certified payrolls collected until 1/1/04. With additional Wage & Hour Technicians the percentage of certified payrolls has increased. The department's FY 2007 proposal for an on-line certified payroll system has been approved. The number of certified payrolls checked should increase to 100% when this system goes on-line in FY08. This program will allow improved tracking of resident hire and apprentice utilization performance.

### E: Result - Provide legal employment conditions within the Wage and Hour Administration's jurisdiction.

**Target #1:** Maintain average wage claim resolution time to 6 months or less. **Measure #1:** Average claim resolution time.

**Wage Claim Resolution Time** 

| Fiscal  | # Months | % Change | # of Valid Claims |
|---------|----------|----------|-------------------|
| Year    |          |          |                   |
| FY 2001 | 8.9      |          | 555               |
| FY 2002 | 6.0      | -33%     | 417               |
| FY 2003 | 8.1      | +35%     | 375               |
| FY 2004 | 7.9      | -2%      | 397               |
| FY 2005 | 5.3      | -33%     | 466               |
| FY 2006 | 5.5      | +5%      | 419               |

Analysis of results and challenges: The Wage and Hour Administration tracks the average length of time required to resolve wage claims and strives to thoroughly investigate and resolve claims as quickly as possible. Although there are numerous employment conditions enforced by Wage and Hour (return transportation, child labor, record keeping, minimum wage, overtime, etc.), the length of time necessary to resolve wage claims is a representative measure of the agency's ability to ensure legal employment conditions.

To ensure that wage claims are justly resolved, investigators are tasked to collect facts from the claimant and the employer to determine the validity of the claim and the strength of the evidence supporting the claim. By reviewing wage claims more frequently and creating standards for claim resolution times, approval for court action and disposition procedures, the section will maintain claims handling efficiency at less than 6 months. This replaces the 7 month goal from FY06.

The section investigated 514 new claims in FY06 and determined 95 to be invalid, for a total of 419 valid claims

filed in the year. Of the 465 claims closed in FY06 (some of which were filed in previous fiscal years), 78% resulted in a collection for the employee. The section collected \$617,255.55 for an average of \$1,327.43 per claim. In some cases, collection is not possible due to bankruptcy or other collection difficulties.

#### E1: Strategy - Reduce wage claims by improving employer education efforts.

Target #1:Increase the number of employer briefings by 5% from the previous year.

**Measure #1:** The percentage change in the total number of employer briefings in comparison to the previous year.

**Employer Educational Briefings** 

| Fiscal  | % Change | # Briefings |
|---------|----------|-------------|
| Year    |          |             |
| FY 2001 | 0        | 6,748       |
| FY 2002 | -9%      | 6,161       |
| FY 2003 | +47%     | 9,046       |
| FY 2004 | +3%      | 9,282       |
| FY 2005 | +10%     | 10,166      |
| FY 2006 | +12%     | 11,351      |

**Analysis of results and challenges:** The Wage and Hour Administration currently tracks the number of employer briefings. This strategy will be achieved through continued efforts to provide seminars, on-site visits, and quick and accurate responses to employer inquiries. The improvement in this area is expected to level out in FY08 and FY09; we expect to adjust the goal to maintain the level of briefings once that happens.

#### **Key RDU Challenges**

The Alaska Occupational Safety and Health (AKOSH) program will be in the fourth year of the five-year strategic performance plan required by the federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration. Continued increases in economic development across Alaska will require increased consultation and enforcement efforts to meet existing fatality and injury reduction objectives.

The Wage and Hour Administration requests \$170.0 of General Funds to establish two new Wage and Hour Investigator I positions to improve resident hire results. Public construction capital projects have increased by 23% since FY 2003 and existing staff is insufficient to effectively perform on-site inspections. This proposal will result in an additional 500 on-site inspections annually. These positions will help promote a 2% decrease in the ratio of non-residents to residents employed and assist with the department's goal to increase the overall percentage of the Alaska workforce employed.

Mechanical Inspection has an overdue elevator inspection backlog of about 250 units. In the last five years, the number of elevators in Alaska has increased by 228 units for a total of 953 units. The average inspector can perform 275 inspections per year. If new elevators continue to be constructed at the current rate, there will not be enough inspectors to perform the inspections. Uninspected units can have code compliance issues that pose significant potential risks to public safety.

#### Significant Changes in Results to be Delivered in FY2008

With the requested funding, increase the number of public construction on-site inspections for resident hire compliance by 200%.

Occupational Safety and Health will reduce the 5-year average rate for workplace injuries that result in a day or more of lost work time by 2% in FY 08 by focusing consultation and enforcement activities on the most likely causes of workplace fatalities and injuries in high hazard industries (Seafood processing, Construction and Transportation/Warehousing) in Alaska.

#### Major RDU Accomplishments in 2006

Wage and Hour staff collected over \$2,985,000 in wages, penalties and interest owed to Alaskan workers. 55% of

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certified payrolls received were checked for compliance with Alaska resident hire requirements.

Although the backlog of boiler and pressure vessels increased slightly, 84% of the code violations found were corrected immediately and the remaining code violations should be corrected in the following year.

The Alaska Occupational Safety and Health (AKOSH) Consultation program provided 103 training seminars to 2,166 individuals and identified and eliminated 2,721 workplace hazards during 531 on-site visits, while AKOSH Enforcement conducted 548 compliance inspections in FY06.

#### **Contact Information**

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All dollars shown in thousands

## Labor Standards and Safety RDU Financial Summary by Component 72006 Actuals FY2007 Management Plan

|                                      | FY2006 Actuals   |                  |                |                | FY2007 Management Plan |                  |                | FY2008 Governor |                  |                  |                |                |
|--------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|----------------|----------------|------------------------|------------------|----------------|-----------------|------------------|------------------|----------------|----------------|
|                                      | General<br>Funds | Federal<br>Funds | Other<br>Funds | Total<br>Funds | General<br>Funds       | Federal<br>Funds | Other<br>Funds | Total<br>Funds  | General<br>Funds | Federal<br>Funds | Other<br>Funds | Total<br>Funds |
| Formula Expenditures None.           |                  |                  |                |                |                        |                  |                |                 |                  |                  |                |                |
| Non-Formula<br>Expenditures          |                  |                  |                |                |                        |                  |                |                 |                  |                  |                |                |
| Wage and Hour<br>Administration      | 1,255.2          | 0.0              | 386.0          | 1,641.2        | 1,368.4                | 0.0              | 417.5          | 1,785.9         | 1,674.0          | 0.0              | 466.2          | 2,140.2        |
| Mechanical<br>Inspection             | 65.9             | 0.0              | 1,933.2        | 1,999.1        | 69.3                   | 0.0              | 2,331.3        | 2,400.6         | 75.6             | 0.0              | 2,615.6        | 2,691.2        |
| Occupational<br>Safety and<br>Health | 5.1              | 2,058.4          | 2,067.8        | 4,131.3        | 22.8                   | 2,403.5          | 2,249.2        | 4,675.5         | 22.8             | 2,403.5          | 2,757.7        | 5,184.0        |
| Alaska Safety<br>Advisory<br>Council | 0.0              | 0.0              | 13.8           | 13.8           | 0.0                    | 0.0              | 117.3          | 117.3           | 0.0              | 0.0              | 123.1          | 123.1          |
| Totals                               | 1,326.2          | 2,058.4          | 4,400.8        | 7,785.4        | 1,460.5                | 2,403.5          | 5,115.3        | 8,979.3         | 1,772.4          | 2,403.5          | 5,962.6        | 10,138.5       |

### **Labor Standards and Safety** Summary of RDU Budget Changes by Component From FY2007 Management Plan to FY2008 Governor

|   | General Funds | Federal Funds | Other Funds | Total Funds |
|---|---------------|---------------|-------------|-------------|
| FY2007 Management Plan                                    | 1,460.5       | 2,403.5       | 5,115.3     | 8,979.3     |
| Adjustments which will continue current level of service: |               |               |             |             |
| -Mechanical Inspection                                    | 0.0           | 0.0           | 0.1         | 0.1         |
| -Occupational Safety and Health                           | 0.0           | -232.7        | 232.9       | 0.2         |
| Proposed budget increases:                                |               |               |             |             |
| -Wage and Hour Administration                             | 305.6         | 0.0           | 48.7        | 354.3       |
| -Mechanical Inspection                                    | 6.3           | 0.0           | 284.2       | 290.5       |
| -Occupational Safety and Health                           | 0.0           | 232.7         | 275.6       | 508.3       |
| -Alaska Safety Advisory Council                           | 0.0           | 0.0           | 5.8         | 5.8         |
| FY2008 Governor   | 1,772.4       | 2,403.5       | 5,962.6     | 10,138.5    |